

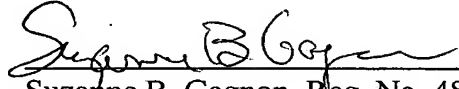
REMARKS

If there are any additional fees resulting from this communication, please charge all uncovered fees to our Deposit Account No. 16-0820, our Order No. 34145.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION SHOWING CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-10, 12-22 and 24-34 have been amended in the following manner:

1           1. (Amended) A hearing device with at least one acoustical to electrical  
2           converter, at least one electrical to mechanical converter, at least one signal processing  
3           unit and with an electrical power supply unit, wherein said electrical power supply unit  
4           and said electrical to mechanical converter are incorporated within a first module, said  
5           acoustical to electrical converter and said signal processing unit are incorporated in a  
6           second module and wherein said first and said second modules are assembled in a  
7           disassemblable manner.

1           2. (Amended) The hearing device of claim 1, wherein said electrical power  
2           supply unit and said electrical to mechanical converter are unremovably integrated in said  
3           first module, said first module being as a whole an exchange part.

1           3. (Amended) The hearing device according to [one of the claims 1 or 2] claim  
2           1 or claim 2, wherein said first module comprises an On/Off control arrangement for said  
3           hearing device.

1           4. (Amended) The hearing device of [one of the claims 1 to 3] claim 1, wherein  
2           said second module comprises a control unit for said signal processing unit.

1           5. (Amended) The hearing device according to [one of the claims 1 to 4, being

2 a], claim 1, wherein said hearing aid device [and thereby] is one of an In-The-Ear hearing  
3 aid device and of an Outside-The-Ear hearing aid device.

1 6. (Amended) The hearing device of [one of the claims 1 to 5] claim 1, wherein  
2 said power supply unit is one of a non-rechargeable battery arrangement and of a  
3 rechargeable accumulator arrangement.

1 7. (Amended) The hearing device of [one of the claims 1 to 6] claim 1, wherein  
2 said power supply unit at said first module is exchangeable at said first module.

1 8. (Amended) The hearing device of [one of the claims 1 to 7] claim 1, wherein  
2 said first and second modules are assemblable and disassemblable by means of one of a  
3 bayonet-type interconnection, a screwing interconnection, and a snap interconnection.

1 9. (Amended) A hearing device according to [one of the claims 1 to 8] claim 1,  
2 further comprising a code unit in [or at] said first module and a code-reader and decoding  
3 unit [at or] in said second module, the output of said code-reader and decoder unit being  
4 operationally connected to at least one control input of an electronic unit within said  
5 second module.

1 10. (Amended) The hearing device according to [one of the claims 1 to 9] claim  
2 1, further comprising an electronic unit within said first module, said electronic unit  
3 [being specifically conceived] for said electrical supply unit and said electrical to  
4 mechanical converter within said first module.

1           12. (Amended) The set according to claim 11, wherein at least one first module  
2 of a hearing device of said set has an electrical power supply unit and an electrical to  
3 mechanical converter, which are unremovably integrated in said first module, said  
4 respective first module being integrally an exchange part.

1           13. (Amended) The set [of one of claims 11 or 12] according to claim 11 or claim  
2 12, wherein a first module of at least one of said hearing devices forming said set has an  
3 On/Off control arrangement for said respective hearing device.

1           14. (Amended) The set according to [one of the claims 11 to 13] claim 11,  
2 wherein at least one second module of said hearing devices belonging to said set has a  
3 control arrangement for externally controlling said signal processing unit.

1           15. (Amended) The set [of one of the claims 11 to 14] according to claim 11,  
2 wherein said hearing devices forming said set [being hearing aid devices and thereby] are  
3 one of In-The-Ear hearing aid devices and Outside-The-Ear hearing aid devices.

1           16. (Amended) The set according [to claims 11 to 15] claim 11, wherein at least  
2 one of said first modules of said hearing devices comprises a power supply unit, which  
3 is a rechargeable accumulator.

1           17. (Amended) The set according to [one of the claims 11 to 16] claim 11,  
2 wherein at least one of said first modules comprises a power supply unit, which is at least

3 one battery.

1 18. (Amended) The set [of one of claims 11 to 17] according to claim 11,  
2 wherein at least one of said first modules has a power supply unit, which is exchangeable  
3 from said first module.

1 19. (Amended) The set [of hearing devices] according to [one of the claims 11  
2 to 18] claim 11, said first modules having a code unit with a code, said codes of said first  
3 modules being different, said second modules having a code reader and decoder unit for  
4 reading and decoding said code of said first modules, the output of said code reader and  
5 decoding unit being operationally connected to at least one adjusting input of an  
6 electronic unit within said second module.

1 20. (Amended) The set [of hearing devices] according to [one of the claims 11  
2 to 19] claim 11, further comprising an electronic unit respectively within said first  
3 modules and wherein said electronic units of said first modules are different.

1 21. (Amended) A method for manufacturing a hearing device, comprising  
2 • assembling an electrical power supply unit and an electrical to mechanical  
3 converter to a first module;  
4 • assembling an acoustical to electrical converter and a signal processing unit to a  
5 second module;  
6 • assembling said first and second module to substantially form said hearing device  
7 in a manner said modules may be disassembled without destroying at least said second

8 module.

1 22. (Amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising the step of  
2 unremovably integrating said electrical power supply unit and said electrical to  
3 mechanical converter into said first module as an integrally formed exchange part of said  
4 hearing device.

1 24. (Amended) The method of [one of claims 21 to 23] claim 21, further  
2 comprising the step of integrating in said second module a control unit for externally  
3 controlling said signal processing unit.

1 25. (Amended) The method of [one of claims 21 to 24] claim 21, further  
2 comprising the step of manufacturing a hearing aid device being one of an In-The-Ear  
3 hearing device and of an Outside-The-Ear hearing device.

1 26. (Amended) The method of [one of claims 21 to 25] claim 21, further  
2 comprising the step of assembling into said first module one of at least one  
3 un rechargeable battery and of a rechargeable accumulator as said power supply unit.

1 27. (Amended) The method of [one of claims 21 to 26] claim 21, further  
2 comprising the step of providing said power supply unit in said first module so as to be  
3 exchangeable therein.

1 28. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 21 to 27] claim 21, further

2 comprising the step of assembling to said first module at least one electronic unit.

1 29. (Amended) The method of [one of claims 21 to 28] claim 21, further  
2 comprising providing at said first module a code and providing at said second module a  
3 code reader and decoder unit, thereby operationally connecting an output of said reader  
4 and decoder unit to at least one adjusting input in said second module.

1 30. (Amended) A method for upgrading an existing hearing device for when  
2 individual needs [having] have changed, comprising exchanging at said hearing device  
3 [exclusively] a first module, which comprises an electrical power supply and an electrical  
4 to mechanical converter of said hearing device, and maintaining a second module  
5 comprising a signal processing unit and an acoustical to electrical converter.

1 31. (Amended) The method of claim 30, wherein said hearing device [is a  
2 hearing aid device and thereby] is one of an In-The-Ear hearing device and of an Outside-  
3 The-Ear hearing device.

1 32. (Amended) The method of [one of claims 30 or 31] claim 30 or claim 31,  
2 further comprising the step of exchanging said electrical power supply by exchanging  
3 said first module.

1 33. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 30 to 32] claim 30, further  
2 comprising the step of providing in said first module at least one electronic unit.

1           34. (Amended) The method of [one of the claims 30 to 33] claim 30, further  
2       comprising the step of recognizing at said second module said first module exchanged  
3       and controlling signal processing at said second module by the result of said recognizing.